

MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the College Park City Council
Tuesday, January 11, 2011
8:00 p.m. – 8:39 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Fellows; Councilmembers Nagle, Catlin, Perry, Stullich (arrived 8:03 p.m.), Afzali and Mitchell.

ABSENT: Councilmembers Wojahn and Cook.

ALSO PRESENT: Joe Nagro, City Manager; Suellen Ferguson, City Attorney; Janeen Miller, City Clerk; Chantal Cotton, Assistant to the City Manager; Brian Burrell, Student Liaison; Steve Groh, Director of Finance; Terry Schum, Director of Planning, Elisa Vitale, Senior Planner.

Mayor Fellows opened the meeting at 8:00 p.m. He announced that there would be an Executive Session and then a Special Worksession following the conclusion of the Regular Meeting. Councilmember Afzali led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: A motion was made by Councilmember Perry and seconded by Councilmember Mitchell to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing of December 14, 2010, the Regular Meeting of December 14, 2010 and the Confidential Minutes of the December 7, 2010 Executive Session. The motion passed 5 – 0 – 0.

Announcements:
(Councilmember Stullich arrived during Announcements.)

Councilmember Nagle announced that the North College Park Citizens Association would hold their monthly meeting on Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m. at Davis Hall.

Councilmember Catlin announced that the Lakeland Civic Association would hold their monthly meeting on Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at the College Park Community Center.

Proclamation: Mayor Fellows read the proclamation for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and announced the 20th Annual Tribute would be held this Saturday from 2 – 4 p.m. at the Clarice Smith Center.

Amendments to the Agenda: Item 11-G-01, Detailed Site Plan for Domain College Park, was pulled off the agenda.

City Manager's Report: Mr. Nagro informed the Council about Senator Cardin's event in the Council Chambers on Thursday morning. He reminded Council about the annual Spencer Harris Safety Breakfast on January 28th. He reminded everyone of the City Holiday on Monday.

Student Liaison Comments: Brian Burrell announced the Student Government Association's choice for the redistricting commission.

Comments from the Audience on Non-Agenda Items:

Byron Patterson, 4813 Guilford Road: Requested that the Council evaluate shared/group housing programs, mobile water filtration systems for businesses, and identify theft.

Tim Miller, 5119 Niagara Place: Requested help getting a water leak fixed at Edgewood Road at 51st Terrace.

Byron Patterson also reported an ongoing water leak on Guilford Road at the Trolley Trail.

Action Items:

11-G-01 Approval, With Conditions, of Detailed Site Plan DSP 09031 for Domain College Park, Approval of Annexation Agreement and Amendment to the Declaration of Covenants and Agreement Regarding Land Use.

Mr. Nagro said that this item has been removed from the agenda and will return to the next Worksession.

11-G-02 Contract Award To Design & Integration In An Amount Not To Exceed \$148,662 For New Audio/Visual Equipment In The Council Chambers.

A motion was made by Councilmember Nagle and seconded by Councilmember Catlin that the City of College Park award a contract to Design & Integration, Inc. of Baltimore, Maryland in an amount not to exceed \$148,662 for new audio-visual equipment in the Council Chambers. The contract award includes hardware, software, installation, removal of existing equipment that is not being reused, training and a 3-year warranty. By this contract award, Mayor & Council authorize the City Manager to execute the Contractor Agreement prepared by the City Attorney. Funding for this award is provided from P.E.G. grant funds in the Institutional Network C.I.P. project.

Councilmember Nagle stated that in September 2010, the City issued RFP CP-10-08 for audio-visual equipment upgrades in the Council Chambers. The RFP was advertised in The Washington Post, posted to the City's website and ad copies were e-mailed to several known vendors. We received 2 bid submittals by the 10/25/10 due date from qualified vendors. City staff and audio-visual consultants Moffet & Associates reviewed the submittals, scaled back the scope to a "core project", and solicited a "best and final price" from the 2 bidders. The "core project" includes 4 digital cameras, a digital video production switcher, audio amplifier and mixer, new gooseneck Worksession microphones, new handheld mics, a digital server for automated recording and playback, a new digital bulletin board (replacing the existing character generator), relocation of the projector and screen, and cabling. Once the contract is awarded, Design & Integration will place the equipment orders and update the project timetable in the

contract. We hope to have the project completed by the end of March. This item was on her wish list last year and she urged Council to move it forward.

There were no comments from the audience on this item.

Councilmember Catlin said this project is overdue since we are using old analog equipment. The project had been delayed for a few years because we weren't sure if City Hall was moving.

Councilmember Perry asked about e-cycling for the existing equipment that will be removed. He also wanted to make sure that the new equipment is portable. Mr. Groh stated that everything can be moved with the exception of the cabling. He asked if this is high definition equipment. Mr. Groh replied it is capable of sending a high definition signal as soon as the cable companies request it of us. Councilmember Perry wants to make sure the Council doesn't delay a relocation of City Hall because of this investment.

Councilmember Afzali affirmed that the equipment is transportable and would not impact decisions about moving City Hall, and remarked that the City's A/V operator, Marcellus Shepard, indicated his support of the motion as well.

The motion passed 6 – 0 – 0.

11-G-03 Approval Of A Letter To M-NCPPC In Support Of A Dog Park At Lake Artemesia

A motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell and seconded by Councilmember Stullich that the Mayor and Council send a letter to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) supporting the installation of a dog park near the entry to Lake Artemesia.

Councilmember Mitchell said that at the request of the Town of Berwyn Heights, the M-NCPPC is looking for a site for a dog park to serve their community. M-NCPPC is recommending a 22,000 square foot site at Lake Artemesia, in the City of College Park, that would include separate fenced areas for large and small dogs, water stations and sitting areas. An enhanced entry gate with brick piers and two additional handicapped parking spaces are also proposed. Funding, membership requirements and park rules have not yet been determined.

There were no comments from the audience on this item.

Councilmember Perry pointed out a letter in the red folder from Mayor Owens that raised serious concerns about this proposal, many of which he shares. Last time he checked there wasn't a dog in the City that could vote or that paid taxes. This was meant to be a passive park; this proposal will chip away at the original intention of the park. He would like to wait until more information is available so Council can make an informed decision.

Councilmember Stullich does not see this use as being incompatible with the Park. It is in a small corner of the park and will be an asset to residents of the City. There are still some issues to be worked out but at this point we should be supportive.

Councilmember Catlin said there is a lot of noise from the train tracks on that side of Lake Artemesia and doesn't think that noise from the dogs would be an issue.

Councilmember Afzali would like to add a sentence to the letter requesting Park and Planning to hold a public meeting about the proposal.

The motion carried 5 – 1 – 0 (Perry opposed).

11-G-04 Appointments To Boards And Committees

A motion was made by Councilmember Stullich and seconded by Councilmember Nagle to approve the following appointments: Appoint Bettina McCloud to the Recreation Board; Justin Fair, Aaron Zaccaria and Kimberly James to the Rent Stabilization Board; reappoint Suchitra Balachandran to the Committee for a Better Environment. The motion carried 6 – 0 – 0.

Council Comments:

Councilmember Perry urged the Council to consider how the actions of the Council benefit the entire City and not just one neighborhood.

Councilmember Afzali thanked the police for their response to the unfortunate incident in Crystal Springs today in which a University of Maryland student was killed. Councilmember Mitchell extended prayers to the family of the deceased.

Comments from the Audience: None.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Councilmember Stullich and seconded by Councilmember Mitchell to enter into an Executive Session to consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business to locate in Prince George's County and to consult with Counsel on a legal matter. Mayor Fellows said the Council would return into a Special Worksession on the Strategic Plan after the Executive Session but would not be voting. The motion passed 5 -1 – 0 (Perry opposed) and the Council adjourned into Executive Session at 8:39 p.m.

Janeen S. Miller, CMC
City Clerk

Date
Approved

Pursuant to §C6-3 of the College Park City Charter, at 8:39 p.m. on January 11, 2011 in the Council Chambers at City Hall, a motion was made by Councilmember Stullich and seconded by Councilmember Mitchell to enter into an Executive Session, citing the following authority:

D. Consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business to locate in Prince George's County.

G. Consult with Counsel on a legal matter.

The motion passed 5 – 1 – 0 (Perry opposed). The Executive Session convened at 8:46 p.m.

Present: Mayor Fellows, Councilmembers Nagle, Catlin, Perry, Stullich, Afzali and Mitchell.

Absent: Councilmembers Wojahn and Cook.

Also Present: Joe Nagro, City Manager; Janeen Miller, City Clerk; Suellen Ferguson, City Attorney; Chantal Cotton, Assistant to the City Manager; Brian Burrell, Student Liaison; Terry Schum, Director of Planning; Elise Vitale, Senior Planner.

Topic Discussed: The City Attorney updated the Council on the negotiations with a business wishing to locate in Prince George's County.

Adjourn: A motion was made by Councilmember Stullich and seconded by Councilmember Afzali to adjourn the Executive Session. Mayor Fellows adjourned the Executive Session at 9:45 p.m. with a vote of 6 – 0 - 0.